

Message Text

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APPROVED BY EUR/SES:CGSTEFAN

COMMERCE - MR. KIRKNESS

S/FW - MR. BLOW

VO/SCA - MRS. HARRIS

EUR/SES - MR. POLANSKY

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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TAGS: CUIS, UR, TECH

SUBJ: ALASKA SEALS - VISAS

REF: MOSCOW 7882

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED BRING FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO
ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE SOVIET OFFICIALS RE REFERENCED
VISA APPLICATIONS.

2. RECORD OF XVI MEETING (MARCH 1973) OF NORTH PACIFIC
FUR SEAL COMMISSION INDICATES INTENTION OF GROUP OF SOVIET
SCIENTISTS TO VISIT PRIBILOFF ISLANDS DURING JUNE-JULY,
RPT JUNE-JULY, TO BECOME "FAMILIAR WITH METHODS OF RESEARCH
WORK" AND "SYSTEM OF FUR SEAL MANAGEMENT ON ISLAND".
JUNE-JULY PERIOD WAS SPECIFIED AS BEST TIME FOR VISIT
BECAUSE SEAL HARVEST ENDS ABOUT JULY 27. WHILE RESEARCH
ACTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE IN AUGUST THUS MAKING PROPOSED
VISIT CHELNOKOV OF POTENTIAL VALUE, US SPONSOR NATIONAL
MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE WISHES TO STRESS THAT VISITS
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OF RYZHOV (DIRECTOR FUR COMBINE) AND VASIL'YEV (ECONOMIST

OF USSR MINFISHERIES) WITHOUT APPARENT UTILITY AFTER COMPLETION OF HARVESTING. IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO SOVIETS ATTENTION (IF THEY ARE UNAWARE) THAT AFTER SKINNING, SALTING, AND PLACING FURS IN BARRELS (TO BE COMPLETED ABOUT AUGUST 1) THE FUR PROCESSING ITSELF WILL BE DONE ON US MAINLAND, NOT PRIBILOFF ISLANDS.

3. IF, IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, SOVIETS DECIDE TO PURSUE VISA APPLICATIONS, WE REQUIRE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- A) MORE PRECISE DATE OF ARRIVAL;
- B) METHOD AND PLACE OF ARRIVAL;
- C) IF BY SEA FROM SOVIET UNION, NAME AND RADIO FREQUENCY OF VESSEL SO IT MAY BE CONTACTED.

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